

Message Text

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15

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

AID-20 OMB-01 RSR-01 /101 W
----- 036324

R 260840 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY DACCA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9505
INFO AMCONSUL CALCUTTA
AMEMBASSY ISLAAMABAD
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, BG, PK,
SUBJ: POLITICAL NOTES

1. COLLABORATORS - APRIL 25 LOCAL PRESS QUOTES ABDUL MANNAN, GENERAL SECRETARY OF JATIYA SRAMIK LEAGUE/ MANNAN, AS DEMANDING CANCELLATION OF PRIVILEGES OF DACCA CENTRAL JAIL CLASS 1 AND 2 PRISONERS ACCUSED OR CONVICTED OF COLLABORATION. FYI CLASS 1 AND 2 PRISONERS RECEIVED SOMEWHAT BETTER TREATMENT THAN ORDINARY PRISONERS END FYI. MANNAN THREATENED GHERJH JAIL IF DEMAND NOT MET BY APRIL 30. MANNAN FURTHER DEMANDED CAPITAL PUNISHMENT FOR CONVICTED CALLABORATORS. FYI ACCORDING TO A STATEMENT BY HOME MIN ABDUL MALEK UKIL IN PARLIAMENT APRIL 20, 30,000 PERSONS ARRESTED TO DATE ON CHARGES OF COLLABORATIO,. OF THIS NUMBER 592 SUBSEQUENTLY RELEASED AND 926 COMMITTED FOR TRIAL. END FYI. (COMMENT: MANNAN HAS BEEN QUIET FOR SOME TIME, AND APPARENTLY WISHES USE COLLABORATION ISSUE ATTRACT ATTENTION. BDG FOR ITS PART HAS DOWNPLAYED QUESTION OF LATE; AS MALEK UKIL' S FIGURES

SHOW, PACE OF PROSECUTIONS HAS BEEN SLOW, WITH TRIALS OF PROMINENT POLITICIANS - KHAN SABUR, F. Q. CHOWDHURY, KHWAJA KHAIRUDDIN - BEGUN ONLY RECENTLY. BDG' S ULTIMATE INTENTIONS RE UNTRIED COLLABORATORS

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STILL UNCLEAR.)

2. BORDER DEMARCATION: HOME MIN MALEK UKIL STATED APRIL 21 THAT INDO/ BD " MINISTERIAL LEVEL" CONFERENCE " LIKELY" BE HELD SOON TO RESOLVE OUTSTANDING PROBLEMS OF BORDER DEMARCATION.

3. SPECIAL ENVOYS: APRIL 25 " MORNING NEWS" QUOTES " RELIABLE SOURCE" AS SAYING PRIMIN INTENDS DISPATCH 4-5 SPECIAL ENVOYS ABROAD " FOR PROJECTING THE BOLD INITIATIVE TAKEN... TO SOLVE THE HUMANITARIAN PROBLEM IN THE SUBCONTINENT." ARTICLE EXPLAINS THAT ENVOYS WOULD BE CHARGED WITH EXPLAINING BDG STAND RE REPATRIATION OF BENGALEES IN PAKISTAN, REMOVAL OF BIHARIS TO PAKISTAN, AND TRAIL OF WAR CRIMINALS. ONLY PERSONS MENTIONED AS POSSIBLE ENVOYS ARE EX- COMM MIN M. R. SIDDIQUE AND ADDITIONAL FONSEC FAKHURDDIN AHMED.

(COMMENT: NOT UNLIKELY THAT SHEIKH WILL MAKE SOME MOVE OF THIS SORT TO COUNTER GOP'S PROPAGANDA CAMPAIGN. ARRANGEMENT WOULD SOLVE PROBLEM POSED BY SIDDIQUE, WHO PACKS TOO MUCH CLOUT TO BE NEGLECTED BUT IS UNACCEPTABLE AS CABINET MINISTER. SUCH USE OF FAKHRUDDIN ALSO LOGICAL, AS HE IS VETERANDIPLOMAT CURRENTLY (UNDER- EMPLOYED.)

FULLER

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 APR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973DACCA01810
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: DACCA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730456/aaaajchx.tel
Line Count: 85
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 DEC 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17-Dec-2001 by shawdg>; APPROVED <08-Jan-2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> srp 980209
Subject: POLITICAL NOTES
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, BG, PK
To: NEA
STATE INFO CALCUTTA
ISLAMABAD
NEW DELHI
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005